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ABSTRACT

A collection of essays by students at the University of Michigan's Pilot Program, an innovative, 600-student, academic/residential undergraduate unit, written specifically for other college students, is presented. The essays give personal glimpses of college life to college students to help them learn from each other what discoveries and challenges college life can offer. The "Students Talk about College" Project was initiated during the 20th anniversary of the Pilot Program at the University of Michigan. Essays from Pilot Introductory Composition sections, Pilot seminars, and from individuals' writing were solicited. To organize the essays that were submitted, a one-credit, mini-course was started. The essays in this collection are about the days after high school, the anxieties of leaving home, and the anticipation of the first week of college. They talk about the joy of independence, growing up, becoming thoughtful adults, and about the pain in that process. The chapters focus on leaving home, transition, why the student is there, social life, and growing up. This book is intended to be a guide for incoming freshmen and those who aid students in their decisions about college. It can be used for orientations and freshman-year-experience seminars since it has information from those who have recently experienced the first year of college. (SM)

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